News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 24, 2002 Contact: Roy Stearns 916-654-7538 Rstea@parks.ca.gov

GOVERNOR'S CUP SERIES KICKS OFF WITH SURFING EVENT

SAN CLEMENTE, CA– Some of the best young surfers in the nation will be competing beginning Thursday at the second annual Governor's Cup at San Onofre, according to the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the National Scholastic Surfing Association, co-presenters of the event.

The Governor's Cup at San Onofre, which is being held at the Lower Trestles break at San Onofre State Beach, is the first in a series of Governor's Cup events, premier athletic competitions to be held in California state parks. The surfing competition is the first in a growing series of sports and recreational events.

"One quarter of the California coastline, nearly 300 miles, are within the state park system and within that 300 miles there is some of the best surfing anywhere in the world," said Ruth Coleman, Acting Director, California State Parks. "The Governor's Cup at San Onofre acknowledges an outstanding California State Beach with a truly California state sport and honors our talented youth."

"Lowers is one of the best summer waves in the nation, if not the world, so it is a perfect place to crown National Champions and award the Governor's Cup", said Janice Aragon, Executive Director of National Scholastic Surfing Association (NSSA)

California State Parks offers world-class venues for the Governor's Cup series, which will be expanded this year to biking at Mt. Diablo State Park and is slated to include other sports, such as volleyball and running.

The NSSA is a nonprofit, amateur surfing organization established in 1978 to promote the merits of high academic achievement among young surfers.



Competitors are required to be full time students and maintain a 2.0 grade point average. The NSAA also provides funds to student members for post-high school education, and administers a "Surfer/Scholar Program", which recognizes any member who maintains a 3.5 grade point average for a school year. Last year's winners were Holly Beck and Greg Long.

The "Governor's Cup" competition will begin on Thursday in association with the National Open Men's and Women's divisions. The NSSA's National Championships are being held throughout the week. The three-foot tall revolving "Governor's Trophy" will be awarded to the champions of the National Open Men's and Open Women's divisions following competition on Saturday, June 29th.

This year's competition will be covered by DynoComm Sports to air on ESPN2TV in July.

Note to the media: For more information and schedule regarding the Governors Cup contact: Janice Aragon, NSSA Executive Director (714) 536-0445 Mike Tope, Superintendent, Orange Coast District (949) 366-8503 Steve Long, Lifeguard Supervisor, South County State Beaches (949) 366-8507

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